Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 through 13 (cancelled)

14. (currently amended) A method of obtaining images and a status of a camera, the method comprising:

sending a new image, if the new image is different from an old image; and

sending a heartbeat, if the new image is not different from the old image, wherein the new image is sent periodically at a first rate, and the heartbeat is sent periodically at a second rate.

15. (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~15~~14, wherein the heartbeat is sent only if a series of new images were the same as the old images.

17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~17~~21, further comprising resetting the second timer when the new image is sent.

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21.   (new) A method of obtaining images and a status of a camera, the method comprising:

sending a new image, if the new image is different from an old image;

sending a heartbeat, if the new image is not different from the old image;

using a first timer to periodically send the new images; and

using a second timer, to send the heartbeat, if no new images were sent within a period.